

## TWO NEW NORTH AMERICAN SPECIES OF MUSCOID FLIES (TACHINIDAE, DIPTERA).

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The two new species of Tachinidae described in the present paper are provisionally referred to the genus *Masicera* to which they trace in most available keys. Although Coquillett's interpretation of *Masicera* apparently is a complex, no satisfactory revision of the related North American genera has been made since his treatment of the subject in 1897.<sup>1</sup> The allocation of species belonging in this group remains uncertain until all of the genotypes concerned are studied and the genera adequately redefined.

### *Masicera unispinosa* n. sp.

Male: Front at narrowest (before ocelli) 0.25 of head width (average of four, 0.26, 0.25, 0.25, 0.25); parafrontals gray pollinose, with fine black hairs outside of frontal rows; median stripe narrow above widening below to about one-half the parafrontal width, brownish-black; frontal bristles ten to twelve, the two (three in two specimens) uppermost large, reclinate, the lower ones diverging toward the eyes and extending nearly to middle of face; no orbitals; only one pair verticals (inner) developed; ocellars large, proclinate; face strongly receding, sides bare, densely gray pollinose, greatly narrowed below; antennae almost reaching oral margin, black, second joint sometimes faintly reddish at apex, hardly one-fourth the length of third; arista of moderate length, slender, slightly thickened beyond the short basal joints, indistinctly short pubescent; facial ridges strongly divergent, bare except close to vibrissae which are situated at the oral margin; facial depression gray pollinose reflecting blackish; proboscis short, fleshy; palpi ordinary, yellow usually infuscated basally, with long black hairs beneath and short bristles near apex above; cheeks gray pollinose on reddish ground color, with numerous black hairs, about one-fifth the eye height; occiput bearing fine pale hairs and black bristles on lower outer margins; eyes bare.

Thorax black, with gray pollen which has a slight yellowish tinge on mesonotum; with four distinct dark stripes, the

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<sup>1</sup> Revision of the Tachinidae, Technical Series Bulletin, No. 7, U. S. D. A., 1897, p. 113.

outer ones interrupted at suture; scutellum black, densely gray pollinose except on basal third. Chaetotaxy: humeral, 3; posthumeral, 2; presutural, 2; notopleural, 2; acrostichal, 3, 2 to 4 (variable); dorsocentral, 3, 4; intraalar, 3; supraalar, 3; postalar, 3 (inner one small); pteropleural, 1; sternopleural, 2, 1; scutellum with 1 discal, 3 lateral (anterior and posterior ones large) and 1 small decussate horizontal apical pair; halteres yellow, knobs pale above; calypters semitransparent, white with a pale yellowish tinge.

Abdomen black, broad at base but distinctly narrowed toward apex; segments two to four gray pollinose except on the shining hind margins and on a narrow but very distinct dark median stripe; second segment with the pollen extending down the sides and across the venter, which is highly polished posteriorly with dense patches of short black appressed hairs on last two segments; first segment wholly black, without median marginals; second with a median marginal pair; third with a marginal row of about ten; fourth with a marginal and irregular rows of shorter discals; genital segments small, yellowish, inner forceps shining black, slender with blunt tips, deeply divided but not divergent, base with long black hairs directed posteriorly; outer forceps lobelike with a broad yellow base, tapering beyond middle, tips black, broadly rounded, bearing very minute short stubby spines; fifth sternite yellow, widely and deeply incised, the lobes with a few long black hairs on the inner margins.

Legs black, claws and pulvilli elongated; middle tibia with one strong bristle on outer front side near the middle; hind tibia subciliate on outer posterior side with one long bristle slightly beyond the middle.

Wings slightly darkened along the costal border; costal spine indistinct; third vein with one large bristle near base, all others bare; fourth vein curving slightly inward beyond bend, which is obliquely rounded; first posterior cell narrowly open a short distance before the wing tip; hind cross vein sinuous, oblique to fourth, tip nearer bend than to small cross vein.

Length, 4.5 to 7.5 mm.

Described from nine males collected at College Station, Texas, April and May, 1920-1929, (H. J. Reinhard). Type and two paratypes deposited in the U. S. National Museum.

#### *Masicera seticauda* n. sp.

Male: Front 0.21 of head width, rather prominent below; parafrontals gray pollinose, blackish and subshining before

vertex; median stripe broad, black, slightly narrowed in front of ocellar triangle extending as a line on either side to inner vertical; frontal bristles in two rows which diverge on the parafacials to a level with apex of second antennal joint, the uppermost pair smaller than the two preceding reclinate ones; inner verticals rather weak, the outer short and hair-like; ocellars large, proclinate; orbitals absent; eyes bare; parafacials gray pollinose, bare, strongly divergent, not narrowed below, distinctly wider than third antennal joint; face concolorous with parafacials, the ridges rather high, with a few bristles above the vibrissae, which are situated on the oral margin; antennae three-fourths the length of face, black except near the base of third and at apex of second joints which are yellowish; third joint slightly more than twice the length of second; arista bulbous at base, very slender beyond, basal joints short but distinct; proboscis very short, fleshy; palpi yellow, rather short and slender, with long black hairs beneath on apical half; cheeks about one-fourth the eye height; occiput subshining with thin gray pollen and sparse pale hairs intermixed with a few black bristles above and below.

Thorax black, dorsum subshining, with two wide pollinose stripes extending from a roundish spot at the anterior dorso-central bristle to the base of the scutellum, the inner and outer stripes less distinctly defined, humeri densely gray pollinose; scutellum black, with reflecting thin gray pollen except on narrow base. Chaetotaxy: humeral, 3; posthumeral, 2 (outer one hairlike); presutural, 1; acrostichal, 3, ? 3 (obscured by pin); dorso-central, 3, 3; intraalar, 3; supra-alar, 3; postalar, 2; notopleural, 2; pteropleural, 1; sternopleural, 2, 1; scutellum with three pairs of lateral bristles, the posterior largest, divaricate, situated almost at apex, with fine hairs between them; disk pilose, with a pair of weak hairlike bristles shortly in front of the posterior marginals; halteres brownish-yellow; calypters white.

Abdomen slender, black tinged faintly with brown on the sides and venter; basal two-thirds of segments two to four with gray pollen, which on the intermediate segments extends broadly on the venter; an obscure median vitta present; hairs and bristles long and erect on dorsum; first segment with a median marginal pair; second with a discal and marginal pair; third with a discal pair and marginal row; fourth with a discal and a marginal row, and a dense series of long spiny bristles underneath on each side of the genitalia; in addition

to the usual marginal laterals each segment has a single bristle in the middle forming a complete row on the sides of the abdomen; genital segments black; fifth sternite with a U-shaped incision, the lobes converging behind, black, bearing short black hair on the margins.

Legs slender, black, tarsi brownish beneath; claws and pulvilli elongated; middle tibia with one bristle on outer front side; hind tibia with a sparse row of short bristles on outer posterior side with one long near the basal third, the middle, and the apex.

Wings normal, slightly infuscated; third vein with three setules at base; fourth vein with a rounded obtuse bend, straight beyond curving slightly outward near tip so that the first posterior cell is narrowly open about half the length of hind cross vein before exact wing tip; hind cross vein sinuous, tip nearer bend than to small cross vein; costal spine short and indistinct.

Length, 6 mm.

Described from one male collected at College Station, Texas, April 9, 1918, (H. J. Reinhard). Type deposited in the U. S. National Museum.

The species is related to *Masicera polita* Coq. from which it differs in having yellow palpi, facial ridges bristly on less than lower fourth, three anterior acrostichals, etc. The dense row of bristles on each side of the fourth segment below makes it easily recognizable.